

There's Beauty in Beach Wrack

WHAT IS THAT SEA SMELL?

That smell comes from beach wrack—a mixture of seaweed, driftwood and other debris washed up on shore. Natural wrack provides both home and food for many insects and crustaceans, and a feast for the birds that feed on them.

Local and migrating birds feed on the creatures found in wrack. Many migrating birds depend on this to fuel their long-distance journeys.

Piles of wrack collect windblown sand, providing nutrients and a more stable place for beach plants to grow.

Semipalmated Plover



Kelp Fly

Sanderling



Beach Pill Bug

Western Gull



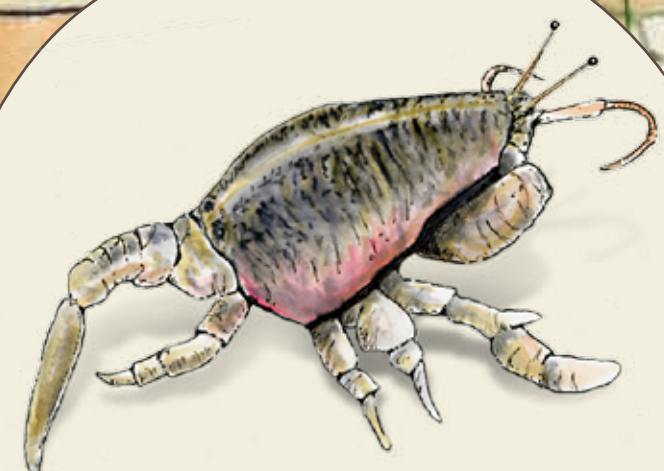
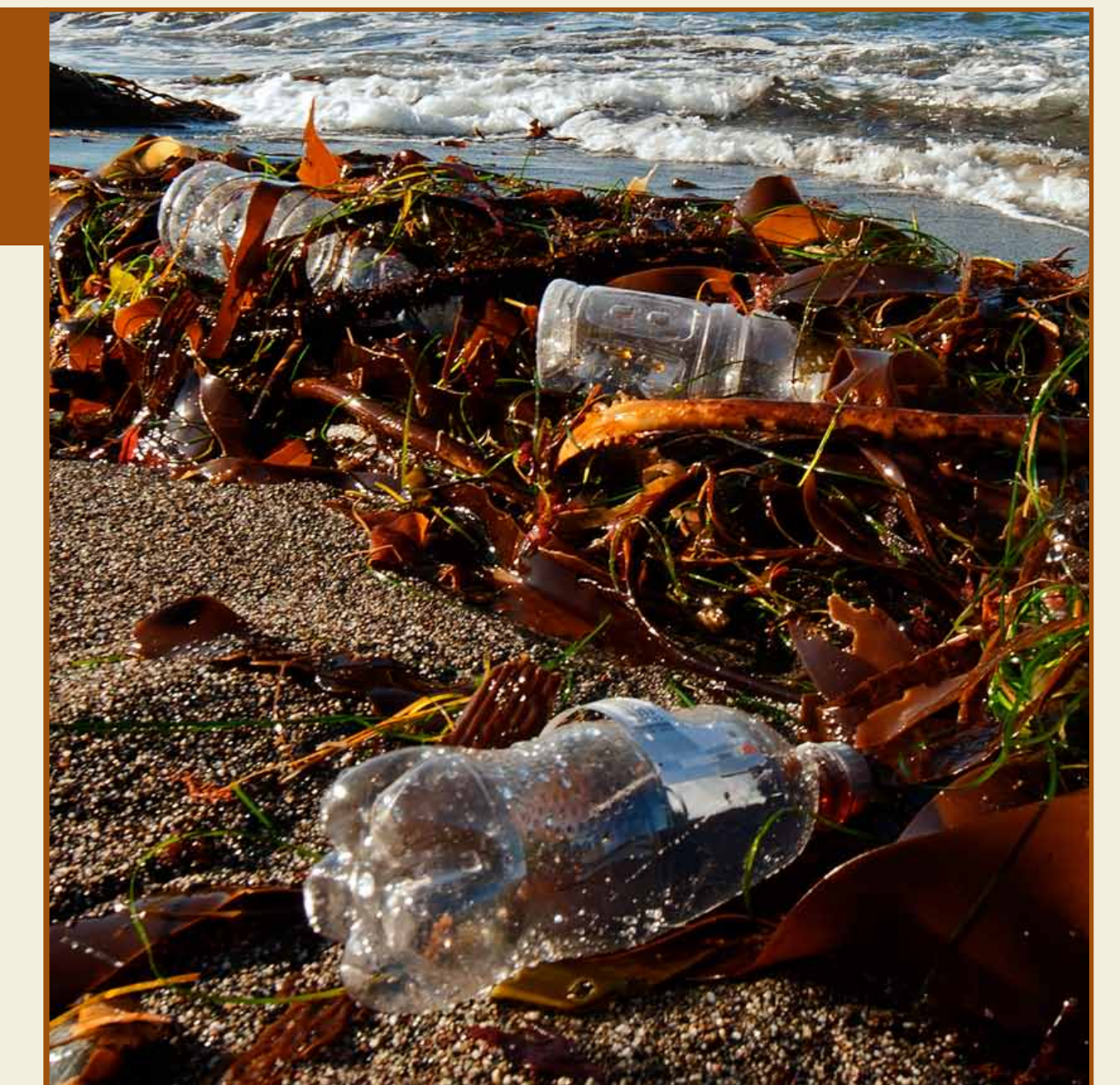
Black-bellied Plover



KEEPING Beach Wrack Natural

Sometimes our trash gets tangled in beach wrack, creating a hazard for wildlife and an eyesore for beach goers. You can help by keeping trash out of the ocean and off the beach.

Some beach managers remove wrack, but California State Parks does not. Leaving wrack leads to a healthier beach for native animals and plants.



Sand Crab



Beach Hopper



Flightless Rove Beetle

